

**The John Hampden
Society**
Annual Report and Financial
Statements for the year
ended 31 December 2018

Registered charity 1098314

Foreword

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2018.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year are shown below.

Roy Bailey, Chairman
Steve Barriff,
Anthea Coles, Honorary Secretary
Sam Hearn, Honorary Treasurer
Phillip Broomfield, Membership Secretary

Structure, Governance & Management

The Society has been a registered charity since 2003. The structure, governance and management are set out in its constitution agreed by the membership in 2003.

The objects of the charity are to;

- Make the character and achievements of John Hampden better known to the general public.
- Provide a library and archive of materials for research into Hampden's life and works.
- Preserve and conserve and erect monuments and artefacts associated with John Hampden.

Day-to-day responsibility for both restricted and unrestricted funds is delegated to the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

Bankers The Coop Bank plc Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	Registered Office 134 Park Road Chiswick W4 3HP
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The Chairman's Annual Report - 2018

General

The aims and objectives of the Society are set out in the Society's constitution which is accessible to members on the website. In planning the Society's activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Accounts

It is the responsibility of the Trustees to ensure proper accounting records are maintained which are able, with reasonable accuracy, to provide the financial position and statements of the charitable company in compliance with the 1993 Charities Act and 1985 Companies Act. The Trustees are also responsible for the safe keeping of all of the Society's assets and for taking all reasonable steps to detect and prevent any fraudulent or other irregular activities.

Funds

There are currently no restricted funds within the Society, and the funds under the Trustees' control can therefore be used to further any of the Society's aims and objectives.

Activities

The last 12 months have been a quiet time for the Society. We have the problem of a falling membership and a lack of members willing coming forward to take on responsibility for running the Society.

However, this is an improvement on the previous year, when a poorly-attended AGM at Amersham resulted in no one willing and able to fill the posts of Chairman and Honorary Treasurer. Fortunately, both Steve Barriff and Sam Hearn were prepared to carry on in these posts on a temporary, caretaker basis, but it was a very unsatisfactory situation.

Although I retired from the committee in 2016 I stood for election as Chairman last year because there was an air of defeatism around and I felt that there was a danger of the Society folding up – and I was not prepared to countenance that. I wanted the Society that I had helped to found to continue in its objective of honouring John Hampden, even if we could not be the force that we were some 15 years ago. I am happy to say that Sam agreed to be elected as Honorary Treasurer again, and Steve took on the post of Webmaster, although off the committee and undergoing serious medication. Anthea Coles also carried on as Honorary Secretary and Phil Broomfield as Membership Secretary, so we had a small but experienced team. But we still need more members to serve on the Executive Committee and drive the Society forward.

There has been the inevitable wastage of members during the year; most notably the sad death of our former Membership Secretary Roger Paynter in Cornwall. Long-standing members will remember Roger well from our visit to Grampound in 2001.

Our main event of the year was a ceremony in Thame on 24th June to mark the 375th anniversary of John Hampden's death. Although on a much smaller scale than the one held exactly 25 years earlier, our Patron, Lord Buckinghamshire, repeated his action of laying a wreath at the memorial plaque on the wall beside Hampden House. We were pleased to have in attendance the Mayor of Thame, Councillor Mrs Ann Midwinter, who said that John Hampden was very much a part of Thame's history. Although extensively advertised in the media, there were relatively few spectators. We must thank our member Maurice Kirtland who arranged for the production of the wreath and its delivery to the site.

For 2019 we are planning a talk for members by a Civil War historian in June, and details will be published in due course.

The Society has lent Thame Museum a seventeenth century lead tobacco jar found some years ago on the Chalgrove battlefield. It joins other items loaned by the Society that are on permanent display.

An issue of ***The Patriot*** was produced in the summer - the first for over a year - and was well received, demonstrating that members look forward to this account of the Society's activities. We have decided to discontinue *Hampden Voice*, and concentrate on the newsletter, although we cannot guarantee 4 issues a year.

I gave a talk on John Hampden in July to the members of Beaconsfield Probus Group. The venue was a glitzy club called *Revolution* – quite unsuitable for such a presentation. We also received a request for a talk to the Croxley Green U3A, near Watford that Sam delivered earlier this month (March 2019).

Our member Jim Rodda is also a member of the Chiltern Society and has been acting as liaison between the two bodies. The Chiltern Society are in the process of improving the Ship Money Memorial site near Prestwood; the undergrowth and grass has been tidied up, a new information board has been erected with input from Jim and Sam Hearn, and a rustic bench has been installed, with the JHS being consulted as to the design. Despite our small size, we can still have an impact.

We try to promote John Hampden and publicise the Society when the opportunity arises. In September a historian suggested in the *Sunday Telegraph* that Cromwell's statue should be removed from outside the Palace of Westminster. We weighed in with a tongue-in-cheek letter suggesting that it should be swapped with the one of John Hampden inside!

We continue to hold Executive Committee meetings; as and when required. These take place at the Shillingford Bridge Hotel on the Thames near Wallingford. The hotel kindly allows us to use a small side room for these meetings where we can erect a laptop and include Phil Broomfield via Skype from his home in Bournemouth. We must express our thanks to the hotel management.

As well as Skype, we use other examples of modern technology. We use an online service called Doodle to indicate availability for meetings and the committee has its own WhatsApp group which enables quick and easy communication by mobile phone. As there are currently only four of us we call it *The Rump!* We also have a committee Google group which has proved essential for more detailed communication and the exchange of documents, pictures, etc. Those of you who have e-mail addresses will know that there is also a members' Google group which we use to keep you informed. We have a Society Facebook page which allows us to post photos and videos, and which attracts responses from interested parties all over the world.

The website is updated and continues to inform; all issues of ***The Patriot*** are now available on it and the Diary page is regularly updated. As we have members in other parts of the world besides the UK, these methods of communication are vital.

We maintain a healthy bank balance and are always looking for ways to spend the money in the cause. Suggestions are welcome.

I must acknowledge the help and support of Sam Hearn, Anthea Coles, Phil Broomfield and Steve Barriff during the past year. Last but not least, my grateful thanks go to our Patron, Miles Buckinghamshire, who has always given and continues to give his unfailing support to the Society. It is thanks to these stalwarts that I am inspired to put myself forward for election as your Chairman for another year.

The Hampden family motto – *Vestigia Nulla Retrorsum* – can be translated as 'No Backward Steps'. Let that be our motto too.

**THE JOHN HAMPDEN SOCIETY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2018**

	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
Income			
Members Subscriptions		1,105	1,145
Fees for talks		60	0
Other donations		55	210
Goods Sold		10	0
Interest earned		0	2
25 th Anniversary Dinner		0	1,305
		<u>1,230</u>	<u>2,662</u>
Expenditure			
Postage		120	0
Travel and meetings		85	0
Cost of AGM (room hire)		80	30
Insurance		65	65
Wreath		50	0
Printing		28	88
Stationery		15	0
Bank charges & adjustments		4	6
25 th Anniversary Event		0	2,196
Website related expenses		0	31
		<u>447</u>	<u>2,416</u>
Net surplus / (loss) for the year		783	246
Opening Stamp Stock		533	381
Opening accruals		-246	-44
Opening debtors		30	81
Closing Stamp		-510	-533
Closing accruals		117	246
Closing debtors		0	-30
Opening bank balance		5,566	5219
Closing bank balance – 31.12.2018 (2017)		<u>6,273</u>	<u>5,566</u>

THE JOHN HAMPDEN SOCIETY
Registered Charity 1098314

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
Tangible assets	1 & 2	0	0
Total fixed assets		0	0
Stock of stamps	3	510	533
Debtors		0	30
Cash		6,273	5,566
Total current assets		6,783	6,129
Creditors		-117	-246
Net assets		6,666	5,883
Unrestricted funds		6,666	5,883
Total charity funds		6,666	5,883

Notes & Policies

1. The Society owns a medallion sculpture of John Hampden and a seventeenth century lead tobacco container that are on permanent loan to Thame Museum.
2. The Society maintains a reference Library. These books are not held for resale and no value has therefore been placed upon them. The catalogue can be viewed at www.johnhampden.org
3. Year-end values are attributed to the Society's stock of stamps. Books etc bought for resale are written-off in year of purchase.